

By Senator Soto

14-01860-15

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Senate Resolution

A resolution to raise awareness of Evans syndrome in this state.

WHEREAS, Evans syndrome is an autoimmune disorder in which a person's immune system creates antibodies that attack the blood's red and white cells and platelets, and

WHEREAS, the antibodies' attack on red cells decreases the oxygen level in the blood, causing those who have the disease to become easily exhausted, and

WHEREAS, the antibodies' attack on white cells interferes with the body's natural ability to fight infections, making such routine illnesses as the common cold difficult to recover from; and their attack on platelets impedes healthy blood clotting, placing those who have the disease at great risk should they have an injury, and

WHEREAS, Evans syndrome is extraordinarily rare, occurring in just 1 in 1 million people, and

WHEREAS, many physicians are unaware of Evans syndrome, and there is no known cure or ongoing research of possible causes or cures for the disorder, and

WHEREAS, chemotherapy, coupled with biweekly platelet checks, is the standard of care today for those who have Evans syndrome, and the cost of each round of chemotherapy may be \$25,000 or more, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

That it is of paramount importance that awareness of Evans

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30 syndrome be raised to encourage research, improve diagnosis and  
31 treatment, and, one day, identify a cure.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with  
33 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Ricardo Garcia  
34 as a tangible token of the appreciation of the Florida Senate  
35 for his brave battle against Evans syndrome and his willingness  
36 to step into the spotlight to advocate for all who have the  
37 disease.